

## **REMARKS**

The Examiner's communication dated March 29, 2004 has been received and carefully considered. In conformance with the applicable statutory requirement, this paper constitutes a complete reply and/or a bona fide attempt to advance the application to final action. Specifically, Applicant has amended claims 1-3, 7, 10, 12, 13, 19, 21 and 22, added new claims 28-30 and cancelled claim 18. In addition, detailed arguments in support of patentability are presented. Reexamination and/or reconsideration of the application as amended are respectfully requested.

### **Summary of the Office Action**

Claims 1-17 and 19-27 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nilsson.

Claim 18 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Fromknecht et al.

### **Specification**

The specification has been amended to overcome the informality objections noted by the Examiner.

### **35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph**

The claims have been carefully amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection.

### **The Claims Distinguish Patentably Over the Reference(s) of Record**

Claim 1 and claims 2-7 dependent therefrom have already been indicated as being allowable over the references of record.

Claims 19 has been amended and placed in independent form incorporating the substantive elements of cancelled base claim 18. As claim 19 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter, it is respectfully submitted that claim 19 and claims 20 and 28-30 which depend from claim 19 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 21 and claims 22-27 dependent therefrom have already been indicated as being allowable over the references of record.

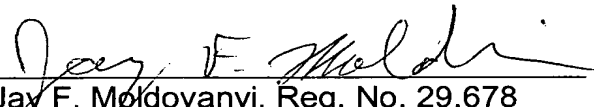
### CONCLUSION

All formal and informal matters having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. It is believed that the claim changes clearly place the application in condition for allowance, defining over any fair teaching attributable to the references of record. Alternatively, if the Examiner is of the view that the application is not in clear condition for allowance, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned for purposes of conducting a telephone interview to resolve any outstanding differences. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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<sup>23</sup>  
July 22, 2004  
Date

  
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